

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A coiled tubing connector comprising:
  - a first, hollow sub including an internal recessed portion, and an engagement portion adjacent to a first end of the sub;
  - at least one arcuate segment, each said segment defining a protuberance extending radially from an inner surface thereof;
  - a second, hollow sub including an engagement portion adjacent to a first end thereof;
  - the first sub being moveable on an exterior surface of a length of unwound coiled tubing;
  - each said protuberance being engagable with a corresponding circumferentially extending recess in the coiled tubing;
  - the second sub being moveable on said exterior surface of the coiled tubing; and
  - the engagement portion of the first sub being engagable with the engagement portion of the second sub to cause in use each said arcuate segment to be retained within the internal recessed portion of the first sub to thereby maintain engagement of each said radially extending protuberance with the circumferentially extending recess in the coiled tubing.
2. A coiled tubing connector according to claim 1, wherein the second sub includes an internal shoulder, the internal shoulder in use abutting a first end of the coiled tubing.

3. A coiled tubing connector according to claim 1, wherein respective sides of each said arcuate segment in use abut the first end of the second sub and an internal shoulder of the first sub, thereby preventing axial movement of the so engaged subs relative to each said arcuate segment.

4. A coiled tubing connector according to claim 1, wherein the engagement portion of the first sub defines a screw thread, and the engagement portion of the second sub defines a complementary screw thread.

5. A coiled tubing connector according to claim 1, wherein the second sub includes a second end, the second end defining a threaded portion that permits the attachment of a tool or a work string to the coiled tubing connector.

6. A coiled tubing connector according to claim 1, wherein the second sub includes a second end, the second end defining an arrangement substantially similar to the first end, the two similar ends permitting the in-line connection of two lengths of coiled tubing.

7. A method of making a coiled tubing connector comprising the steps of:

(a) forming at least one circumferentially extending recess in an outer surface of a length of unwound coiled tubing;

(b) locating a first, hollow sub to moveably surround the coiled tubing;

(c) placing one or more arcuate segments of a split ring on the outer surface of the coiled tubing to cause a protuberance extending radially from an inner surface of at least one said arcuate segment to engage the circumferentially

extending recess;

(d) locating a second, hollow sub to moveably surround the coiled tubing; and

(e) engaging the first and second subs together to retain the or each arcuate segment therebetween, thereby maintaining engagement of the or each radially extending protuberance with the circumferentially extending recess and locking the first and second subs against movement relative to the coiled tubing.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein step (e) includes causing abutment of the or each arcuate segment against a first end of the second sub and an internal shoulder defined by the first sub, thereby preventing axial movement of the engaged subs relative to the or each arcuate segment.

9. A method according to claim 7, wherein step (d) includes causing abutment of an internal shoulder defined by the second sub against the first end of the coiled tubing.